

Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant Program



Goal 2: Improving teaching for diverse populations (i.e., English Language Learners)

You Are Invited

The Iowa Department of Education invites your institution to participate in a new program funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

This program seeks to build the capacity of teacher educators and teacher candidates in educating Iowa's English Language Learners (ELLs) by—

- Establishing a partnership among teams from Iowa's Institutions for Higher Education and the members of the Iowa Administrators' Second Language (L2) group.*
- Providing opportunities for teacher educators and teacher candidates to improve teaching of cultural and linguistically diverse students.

*The Administrators' L2 group seeks to increase their knowledge of second language acquisition, improve and increase capacity of ELL programs in their districts, and advise state leaders and other districts on best practices for ELLs.

Target Participants

Iowa's teacher educators and teacher candidates

Program Components

Participating institutions will nominate a limited number of teacher educators and teacher candidates to take part in the following program components:

- 📍 **Iowa Culture and Language Conference (ICLC)**,
February 16–17, 2006, Polk County Convention Center, Des Moines, Iowa
- 📍 **Our Kids Summer Seminars for Educators of English Language Learners**
August 7–11, 2006, Iowa State Center, Ames, Iowa
- 📍 **Ongoing evaluation** of the effect of participation in the ICLC and Our Kids seminars on teaching and learning
- 📍 **Expansion of the Administrators' L2 group** to include teacher educators
- 📍 **Technology resource**—Ten institutions will be selected to participate in a technology activity. IP Video Conferencing Units will be available for teacher educators' use at Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to observe the delivery of instruction to ELLs. Teacher educators and teacher candidates will have the opportunity to interact with classrooms and classroom teachers of culturally and linguistically diverse students.

Who Can Participate



Each participating institution will nominate at minimum a team of five (i.e., two teacher educators—defined as instructors involved in teaching methods courses—and three teacher candidates, or three teacher educators and two teacher candidates, etc.) to participate in the program. Priority should be given to teacher educators and teacher candidates who have not had a significant second-language immersion experience. Teacher candidates should be at least in their junior year or the beginning of their student teaching. The first cut will be made on a “first come, first served” basis, with priority being given to institutions with an ESL endorsement program.

Total number of participants the grant will support = 155

Expectations

Participating institutions of higher education are asked to do the following:

- Commit to a three-year participation in the project.
- Select the teacher educators who will be part of the participating team. These teacher educators, in turn, select teacher candidates for participation in the program.
- Support the teacher educators participating in the project as needed to make the project successful.

Team responsibilities include the following:

- **Teacher educators and teacher candidates** are expected to participate in all components of the program, including the Iowa Culture and Language Conference and the Our Kids seminars, and to participate as a team.
- **Teacher educators** are asked to participate in the evaluation process through activities such as pre- and post-seminar surveys, a pre- and post-seminar review of course syllabi, a survey of their students, and a self-study.
- **Teacher candidates** are asked to participate in the evaluation process (i.e., through pre- and post-seminar surveys and observation during their first year of teaching).

Incentives

For Teacher Educators

- Financial support to attend the ICLC and the Our Kids seminars; free educational materials related to the teaching of ELLs
- Opportunity to join the Administrators’ L2 group in a cultural immersion experience
- Possibility of financial support to attend other conferences
- Priority in the use of technology IP Video Conferencing units to make connections with LEA classrooms

For Teacher Candidates

- Financial support to attend the ICLC and the Our Kids seminars; free educational materials related to the teaching of ELLs
- Opportunities to present at the Iowa Culture and Language Conference



Commitment

Participating institutions and teacher educators are asked to make a three-year commitment to the program, with teacher candidates making a two-year commitment.



Questions

For content-related questions, contact:

Dr. Carmen P. Sosa
Consultant for ESL/Bilingual/Foreign Language Programs
Bureau of Instructional Services
Iowa Department of Education
carmen.sosa@iowa.gov
515.281.3805

For information related to the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant, contact:

Mary Beth Schroeder Fracek
Special Projects Coordinator
Iowa Department of Education
marybeth.schroederfracek@iowa.gov
515-281-3160

Deadline for Submitting Application of Intent **November 30, 2005**

Please submit by e-mail or fax to:

Karen Nichols
TQELL Facilitator
Iowa Department of Education
karenenichols@gmail.com
FAX: 440.809.1485

Application of Intent

Iowa Department of Education

Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant Program

Goal 2: *Improving teaching for diverse populations (i.e., English Language Learners)*

*Indicate your institution's interest in participating in this program by submitting the following information by e-mail or FAX to **Karen Nichols, TQELL Facilitator, karenenichols@gmail.com, FAX 440.809.1485.***

Institution of Higher Education _____

Department Dean _____

Address _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

E-mail _____

Team Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

E-mail _____

Preferred ICN Site _____

Team Member _____

Address _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

E-mail _____ Circle one: Teacher Educator Teacher Candidate

Team Member _____

Address _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

E-mail _____ Circle one: Teacher Educator Teacher Candidate

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Address _____

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Address _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

E-mail _____ Circle one: Teacher Educator Teacher Candidate

Team Member _____

Address _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

E-mail _____ Circle one: Teacher Educator Teacher Candidate

If necessary, information for participating teacher candidates may be submitted at a later date.

Please submit by e-mail or fax to:

Karen Nichols
TQELL Facilitator
Iowa Department of Education
karenenichols@gmail.com
FAX: 440.809.1485

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